



El Paso Border Liaison Office
4050 Rio Bravo, Suite 100
El Paso, Texas 79902

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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



EL PASO BORDER OFFICE

Serving the Border Communities of New Mexico and Texas

Sirviendo a las Comunidades Fronterizas de Nuevo México y Texas

March 2002

In October of 1994, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency established the El Paso Border Liaison Office to lead EPA's outreach efforts in the border areas of New Mexico and Texas. We work closely with border communities on their efforts to address binational and other high-priority environmental problems, and we help our Agency better understand the unique challenges and opportunities facing the region. By facilitating community participation and the exchange of information at the local level, the El Paso Border Office encourages border communities to take an active role in improving their local environment.



The El Paso Border Office outreach staff conduct the following activities:

- **Respond** to the environmental and environmentally-related needs of border communities
- **Answer** technical and policy questions related to the border environment
- **Distribute** a broad range of environmental information, including border program updates, citizen's guides to environmental and health issues, environmental publications, technical documents, and EPA grant opportunities
- **Provide** support and **facilitate** and **coordinate** specific projects occurring in the border region, including:
 - **Joint Advisory Committee for the Improvement of Air Quality in the Paso del Norte Air Basin (JAC)**—The Border Office facilitated and coordinated the development of the JAC Strategic Plan and provides on-going technical support on various projects such as the Paso del Norte Ozone Action Day Program.
 - **Wire the Border**—The Border Office partnered with the U.S.-Mexico Chamber of Commerce to establish computer workstations with on-line access to environmental information at the AYUDA community center in San Elizario, Texas.
 - **Doña Ana County Environmental Health Committee**—Border Office staff serve on the steering committee and provide technical support on environmental health issues and solutions.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to encourage border communities in New Mexico and Texas to take an active role in improving and protecting their environment and their health, by providing information and facilitating communities' efforts to address high-priority border environmental and environmentally-related health issues.

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For more information
please contact:

www.epa.gov/usmexicoborder/epbo

EPA EL PASO BORDER LIAISON OFFICE

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El Paso, Texas 79902

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EL PASO BORDER OFFICE PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTER (PIC)

Hours: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

SERVICES

- Public computer with access to on-line information and tools, such as an EPA grant-writing tutorial, an Energy Star energy efficiency home tool kit, EnviroFacts, and HAZTRAKS
- Searchable database of EPA technical information, brochures, and other reference materials housed in the center
- One-on-one technical assistance by appointment

RESOURCES

- Archive of newspaper articles on border environmental issues
- Library of various documentaries and educational videos available on a loan basis
- Collection of electronic tools on CD-ROM, such as Tools for Sustainable Communities, Climate Change Presentation Kit, Environmental Research on the U.S.-Mexico Border Using GIS, EPA Wastewater Guidance Manuals (Spanish/English)
- Environmental education materials, including Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools, Radon Student Activity Book, Teachers Air Education Handbook, Science Investigations Intermediate Level, and many more

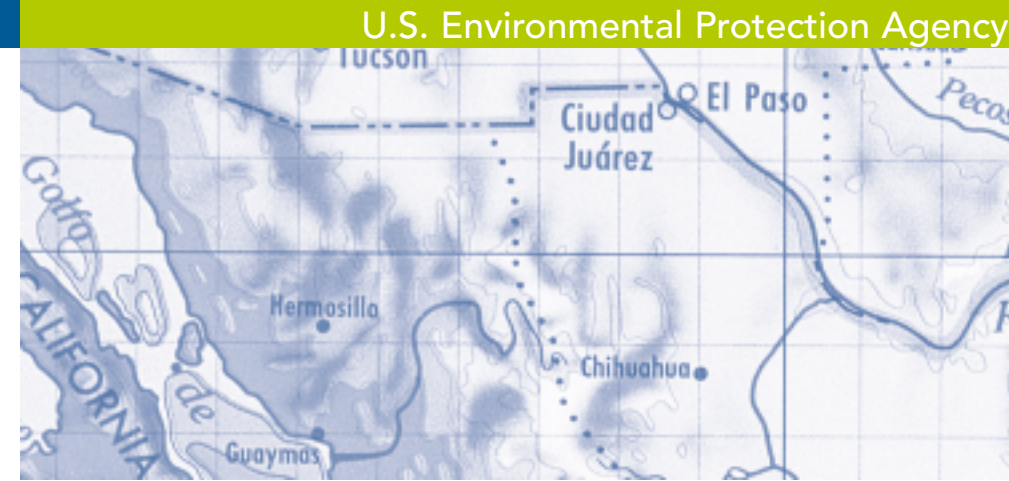
Brownsville Satellite Office

The Brownsville Border Liaison Office was established as a satellite office in 1997 to address transboundary environmental issues in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. El Paso-based EPA staff travel to the Lower Valley periodically to conduct outreach activities and provide technical assistance:

- The Office contains a selfservice Public Information Center with border program information, EPA brochures and reference material
- In the center there is a toll-free telephone that connects directly with staff located in the El Paso Border Office.

Brownsville Border Liaison Office

International Building
3505 Boca Chica
Suite 200
Brownsville, TX 78521
(956) 548-0898



MONTHLY BORDER FORUMS

The El Paso Border Office hosts monthly meetings in the El Paso area featuring speakers who address environmental and health issues of interest to our community. Topics covered have ranged from urban sprawl in the El Paso-Juárez area to lead in Mexican products. These informal gatherings are held from 11:30 am - 1:00 pm on the second Wednesday of every month. For information on upcoming speakers, please contact our office.

**LOOKING
FOR A SPEAKER
FOR THE NEXT
MEETING OF YOUR
ORGANIZATION?**

**EPA outreach staff
are available to give
presentations on
specific environmental
issues or general
border environmental
challenges.**

RESOURCES FOR TEACHERS

The El Paso Border Office provides a variety of resources to K-12 teachers and community college and university professors:

- Our Public Information Center maintains a collection of environmental education materials, including hands-on activities such as videos, teacher manuals and kits
- Outreach staff are available to provide Earth Day programs and other environmental education activities at the K-12 level or environmental science and policy presentations at the college/university level

To schedule a presentation to your class or to review our environmental education resources, please contact our office.

